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VOCABULARY

1. **Recalibrated:** Adjusted or adapted to a new or different scale standard, or scope.
 - Synonyms: Adjusted, reset, redefined
 - Antonyms: Fixed, unchanged, unadjusted
 - Sentence: The strategy was recalibrated to account for recent market trends.

2. **Necessitated:** Made necessary as a result or consequence.
 - Synonyms: Required, demanded, compelled
 - Antonyms: Optional, unnecessary, avoidable
 - Sentence: The sudden illness necessitated a change in our travel plans.

3. **Run-off:** A further competition, election, race, etc., after a tie or inconclusive result.
 - Synonyms: Tie-breaker, second round, decider
 - Antonyms: Conclusive result, final decision
 - Sentence: The presidential election is headed for a run-off as no candidate won a clear majority.
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4. **Dissent:** The expression or holding of opinions at variance with those previously, commonly, or officially held.
 - Synonyms: Disagreement, opposition, protest
 - Antonyms: Agreement, harmony, concurrence
 - Sentence: There was significant dissent within the party over the new policy.

- 5. Catastrophic:** Involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering.
- Synonyms: Disastrous, devastating, calamitous
 - Antonyms: Beneficial, fortunate, favorable
 - Sentence: The earthquake caused catastrophic damage to the city.
- 6. Exculpate:** To show or declare that someone is not guilty of wrongdoing.
- Synonyms: Absolve, clear, acquit
 - Antonyms: Blame, accuse, incriminate
 - Sentence: The new evidence served to exculpate the defendant from the charges.
- 7. Disillusionment:** A feeling of disappointment resulting from the discovery that something is not as good as one believed it to be.
- Synonyms: Disenchantment, disappointment
 - Antonyms: Satisfaction, contentment, fulfillment
 - Sentence: The corruption scandal led to widespread disillusionment among the voters.

- 8. Defying:** Openly resist or refuse to obey.
- Synonyms: Resisting, challenging, opposing
 - Antonyms: Complying, obeying, yielding
 - Sentence: The protesters were defying the new laws imposed by the government.
- 9. Retrospective:** Looking back on or dealing with past events or situations.
- Synonyms: Backdated, retroactive, reflective
 - Antonyms: Prospective, future, forward-looking
 - Sentence: The law was applied retrospectively, affecting past transactions.
- 10. Forbearances:** Patient self-control; restraint and tolerance.
- Synonyms: Patience, tolerance, restraint
 - Antonyms: Impatience, intolerance, agitation
 - Sentence: The lender showed forbearance by not foreclosing on the property immediately.

IDIOMS AND PHRASES

- 11.** Feather in one's cap : A new and additional distinction
- 12.** Donkey's year : A long time
- 13.** Leave no stone unturned : To try every possible way
- 14.** A man of letters : Scholar
- 15.** To nip in the bud : To stop something in the starting

CURRENT AFFAIRS

2nd July, 2024

1. The three new criminal laws in India—Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023; Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023; and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023— come into force with effect from 1 July 2024. These laws were passed by the Parliament during the winter session in 2023.

Key provisions:

- Report incidents online, file FIRs at any police station, and provide victims with a free copy of the FIR.
- Individuals arrested have the right to inform a person of their choice about their situation.
- Investigations for offenses against women and children must be completed within two months of recording information.
- Forensic experts must visit crime scenes for serious offenses to collect evidence.
- Summons can now be served electronically to expedite legal processes and reduce paperwork.
- Training for police and investigating authorities has been conducted to ensure a smooth transition. Awareness programs, news bulletins, discussions, and informational websites have been utilized to inform the public. Course modules on the new laws have been included in schools and higher education institutes.

2. Since 2017, 30 June has been observed as International Asteroid Day.
 - The day is observed to raise public awareness about the threat posed by near-Earth objects (NEO) like asteroids or comets to the Earth and its population. It also seeks to raise awareness amongst the people about the communication actions to be taken at the global level in case of a credible near-Earth object threat.
3. India has become the first country to compile a comprehensive checklist of its entire fauna, encompassing 104,561 species, as announced by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav at the Animal Taxonomy Summit-2024.
 - The summit, organized by Zoological Survey of India, focused on Taxonomy, Systematics and Evolution, Ecology and Animal Behavior, and Biodiversity & Conservation.
4. Former Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa has been formally appointed to take on the second highest job in the European Union, that of President of the European Council. Ursula Von der Leyen has been reinstated for a second term as President of the European Commission.

5. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) released an Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (AIPI) Dashboard on their website on June 25, 2024, tracking 174 economies globally for AI readiness. The Index ranks India at the 72nd position, with Bangladesh (0.38) at 113, Sri Lanka (0.43) at 92, and China (0.63) at 31.
- In 2023, India achieved the highest record of remittance inflows globally, amassing USD 125 billion. Strategic economic deals and strong job markets in other countries, especially in the US, UK, and Singapore, were the main things that caused this rise.
 - One important mutual agreement with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) stood out. It made it easier for the two countries to use their currencies in trade.
6. At a grand launching ceremony, Rashtriya Swayamsevak chief Mohan Bhagwat released the book 'Swarswamini Asha', a compilation of essays written by 90 writers and rarely seen photographs to celebrate the 90 years of renowned singer Asha Bhosle. In a musical tribute to the singer, known singers and actors joined the book release to celebrate the singer's contribution to Indian music.

7. Indian multi-role stealth frigate INS Shivalik, mission deployed in South China Sea and North Pacific Ocean, has reached Pearl Harbour in Hawaii to take part in the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise.

What is INS Shivalik?

- It is the lead ship of her class of stealth multi-role frigates built for the Indian Navy. It is the first stealth warship built by India. It is built at the Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL), located in Mumbai.

8. In a significant development for domestic fixed-income markets, Indian government bonds are now included in JPMorgan Chase & Co's emerging markets bond index as of today, June 28. This follows an announcement made in September of the previous year, paving the way for substantial inflows of foreign capital into the Indian economy

- Indian Government Bonds (IGBs) will be included into the widely followed JPMorgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets (GBI-EM) starting with a 1% weight, which will gradually increase to 10% over the next 10 months.

9. Italy reported its first case of Oropouche fever, a mosquito-borne disease common in Latin and South America, this month.
- Italy reported its first-ever case of Oropouche fever, a mosquito-borne disease, on June 15. It's also the first case ever to be detected in continental Europe. Latin America and the Caribbean have already seen outbreaks this year.

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